

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

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SUBJECT Outbreak of Cattle Disease in Dresden District

DATE DISTR. 20 May 1955

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. A disease with symptoms similar to rinderpest appeared in Dresden district during the last week of January 1955. The town of Hainsberg was in the center of the affected area which extended to Bad Schandau and Pirna. Cattle, goats and sheep were affected.
2. Several villages in the neighborhood of Hainsberg lost all their cattle through emergency slaughter. The villages were quarantined, the KVP were assigned as guards and sanitary squads were sent to disinfect the stables.
3. East German veterinarians found that malnutrition made them susceptible to the disease.
4. A district veterinary conference was called in Dresden on 10 February 1955 to discuss the situation.

Comment: the disease, previously reported 25X1
to be similar to rinderpest, is caused by the eating of Igelit binding twine, 25X1
mixed with fodder, by the stricken animals.

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